if so, the details thereof; and

if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d) According to article 130 of the Constitution, "the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint." However, the Chief Justice of India as well as the Full Court have been consistently opposed to the proposal for setting up of the Benches of the Supreme Court in other parts of the country. However, Advocates-on-Record or the petitioner-in-person can now file cases in the Supreme Court of India through internet.

Reduction in minimum age of marriage of men

396. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

whether the Law Commission has recommended reducing the minimum age for marriage of men from 21 to 18 years and declaring Union below the age of 16 years as void;

the other prominent recommendations of the Commission with respect to children and matrimonial matters;

whether Government has accepted the suggestions of the Commission; and

if so, by when the required amendments to the concerned legislations are proposed to be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. The Law Commission of India in its 205th Report has recommended reducing the minimum age for marriage of men to 18 years and declaring marriage below the age of 16 years as void-

The details of the recommendations are in Chapter VI of the 205th Report of the Law Commission, which is available on the Law Commission's Website.

and (d) The matter is under consideration with the Government.

Equal status for all Election Commissioners

397. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

whether he has recently made a statement to the effect that Government was considering a proposal to give equal status to all the Election Commissioners;

if so, the details of the proposal and the reasons therefor; and

by when such a proposal is likely to be brought forward?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) The proposal to give equal status to all Election Commissioners as available to the Chief Election Commissioner under clause (5) of article 324 of the Constitution is a part of the Electoral Reforms which is presently under consideration of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice. The proposal